IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Shank, et al.

Examiner:

V. Vu

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I hereby certify that this document, along with any other papers referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being transmitted via facsimile to (703) 746-7238 on October 15/2003

Gorecki, Reg. No. 38,47

M.S. RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 15, 2003, please amend this application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS begin on page 6 of this paper.